

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 22 as follows:

A reproduction unit 31 reads out and outputs, to a MPEG decoder 32, the MPEG2-compressed omnidirectional image data contained in the recording medium 16. The MPEG decoder 32 decodes and outputs, to a ~~frame memory 32~~ frame memory 33 for storage, the MPEG2-compressed omnidirectional image data read out by the reproduction unit 31.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 38, line 17 as follows:

The Laplacian filter processing unit 101 performs the processing with an incorporated Laplacian filter to convert the output, to the edge difference comparing unit 102, the image in the overlap portion into a binary image composed of an edge portion and a portion other than the edge portion. The Laplacian filter is in the form of a 3 by 3 matrix-shaped filter with values of 1, 1, 1, 1, -8, 1, 1, 1, and 1 assigned from a left of an upper stage, as shown in FIG. 20, for instance. An image as shown in FIG. 21, if processed with the Laplacian filter shown in FIG. 20, for instance, is converted into the binary image in which only the pixels of the edge portion in FIG. 21 are turned into white pixels, with other pixels turned into black pixels, as shown in FIG. 22.